

Detailed and Complete Listing of the Claims:

Please cancel claims 5 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Original) A metallic product comprising: a metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion, the metallic curved hollow member being produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.

2. (Original) The metallic product as claimed in claim 1, in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion extend in a longitudinal direction of the metallic curved hollow member, in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion are sections formed by the extrusion, and in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion extend along a periphery of the hollow cross section of the metallic curved hollow member.

3. (Original) The metallic product as claimed in claim 2, in which the metallic straight hollow member has a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion, the thin wall portion and the thick wall portion extending along a periphery of the hollow cross section of the metallic straight hollow member.

4. (Original) The metallic product as claimed in claim 3, in which the metallic straight hollow member is formed into an eccentric pipe comprising an inner cylindrical surface and an outer cylindrical surface, the inner cylindrical surface being eccentric from the outer cylindrical surface.

5. Cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

6. (Original) A production process of forming a metallic curved hollow member, the process comprising: forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and bending the metallic straight hollow member into the metallic curved hollow member,

the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion.

7. (Original) A metallic product comprising: a metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which comprises a cross-shaped portion, the metallic curved hollow member being produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.

8. (Original) A production process of forming a metallic curved hollow member, the process comprising: forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and bending the metallic straight hollow member into the metallic curved hollow member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which comprises a cross-shaped portion.

9. (Currently Amended) A vehicular member construction comprising:
a pair of side members extending substantially in a fore-and-aft direction of a vehicle and spaced apart from each other substantially in a widthwise direction of the vehicle; and

a pair of cross member members including a first cross member and a second cross member spaced apart from each other in the fore-and-aft direction of the vehicle for connecting the pair of the side members;

wherein at least one of the pair of the side member members and the pair of the cross member members has a hollow cross section comprising:

a thin wall portion; and

a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion, and

wherein the thin wall portion and the thick wall portion are monolithic with each other.

10. (Original) The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the at least one of the side member and the cross member that has the hollow cross section comprising the thick wall portion is produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.

11. (Original) The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 10, in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion extend in a longitudinal direction of the side member, and in which the thick wall portion and the thin wall portion are sections formed by the extrusion.

12. (Original) The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 11, in which the metallic straight hollow member has a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion.

13. (Original) The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 12, in which the metallic straight hollow member is formed into an eccentric pipe comprising an inner cylindrical surface and an outer cylindrical surface, a center of the inner cylindrical surface being eccentric from a center of the outer cylindrical surface.

14. (Currently Amended) The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the side member comprises a suspension link bracket for supporting a suspension link for linking the side member and a wheel of the vehicle, the suspension link bracket being mounted on the thick wall portion of the side member, ~~the thick wall portion being thicker than the thin wall portion of the side member.~~

15. (Original) The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 9, in which the thick wall portion that is thicker than the thin wall portion is formed through a hydraulic forming method comprising the following sequential operations of: bending a workpiece which is straight and hollow; and pressing the workpiece so that the workpiece has a cross section which is substantially rectangular in shape.

16. (Original) The vehicular member construction as claimed in claim 15, in which upper and lower dies used for the hydraulic forming method defines a cavity

which is formed with an inner surface, and in which a gap defined between the workpiece and a unique portion of the inner surface of the cavity is greater than a gap defined between the workpiece and other portion of the inner surface other than the unique portion, the workpiece being of the at least one of the side member and the cross member.

CS 17. (Original) A production process of forming a vehicular member construction, the process comprising: forming a metallic straight hollow member by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy; and bending the metallic straight hollow member into a metallic curved hollow member, the metallic curved hollow member having a hollow cross section which comprises a thin wall portion and a thick wall portion which is thicker than the thin wall portion.

18. (Currently Amended) A vehicular member construction comprising:
a pair of side members extending substantially in a fore-and-aft direction of a vehicle and spaced apart from each other substantially in a widthwise direction of the vehicle; and

a cross member for connecting the pair of the side members;

wherein at least one of the a side member of the side members and the cross member has a hollow cross section comprising a cross-shaped portion, the cross-shaped portion being formed substantially thoroughly from a first end of the at least one of the side member and the cross member to a second end of the at least one of the side member and the cross member, at least a part of the side member being thicker in cross section than the cross-shaped portion.

19. (Original) The vehicular member as claimed in claim 18, in which the at least one of the side member and the cross member that has the hollow cross section comprising the cross-shaped portion is produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.

20. Cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

21. (New) A vehicular member construction comprising:

first and second side members extending substantially in a fore-and-aft direction of a vehicle and spaced apart from each other substantially in a widthwise direction of the vehicle; and

a cross member for connecting the first and second side members;

wherein at least one of the first side member, second side member, and the cross member has

a hollow cross section comprising at least one side wall, and a cross-shaped portion having cross-walls, the cross-shaped portion being formed substantially thoroughly from a first end of the at least one of the first side member, second side member, and the cross member to a second end of the at least one of the first side member, the second side member, and the cross member, wherein at least part of the one side wall is thicker than at least one of the cross-walls of the cross-shaped portion.

22. (New) The vehicular member as claimed in claim 21, in which the at least one of the first side member, the second side member, and the cross member that has the hollow cross section comprising the cross-shaped portion is produced by bending a metallic straight hollow member produced by extrusion of aluminum material which is one of aluminum and aluminum alloy.